

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Claims 5-6 are canceled. Claims 1-4, and 7-69 remain in this application and, as amended herein, are submitted for the Examiner's reconsideration.

Claims 7 and 47 have been amended solely to provide proper antecedence and to have the claims better conform to the requirements of U.S. practice. None of these amendments is intended to narrow the scope of any of these claims, and no new matter has been added by these amendments.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 7-16, 21-27, 36-55, and 67-69 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cooper (U.S. Patent No. 6,754,904) in view of Zenith (U.S. Patent No. 6,519,771) and further in view of Abecassis (U.S. Patent No. 5,610,650) and Vong (U.S. Patent No. 6,918,317). Applicant submits that the claims are patentably distinguishable over the cited references.

For example, amended claim 1 calls for:

a selection unit operable to receive from a first user a selection of a desired one of the plurality of icons for transmission to another client device connected to the server; and

a transmitter operable to transmit a request to the server, the request including a command that the server transmit the selected one of the plurality of icons to the another client device and including a respective one of the plurality of icon identification data sets that corresponds to the selected one of the plurality of icons so that the server transmits a further command to the another client device to execute the selected one of the plurality of icons, the further command including the respective one of the plurality of icon identification data sets.
(Emphasis added.)

Neither the relied on sections of Cooper, the relied on sections of Zenith, the relied on sections of Abecassis, nor the relied on sections of Vong disclose or suggest receiving a selection of

an icon for transmission to another client device. Moreover, neither the relied on sections of Cooper, the relied on sections of Zenith, the relied on sections of Abecassis, nor the relied on sections of Vong disclose or suggest transmitting a command that a server transmit an icon to another client device. Further, neither the relied on sections of Cooper, the relied on sections of Zenith, the relied on sections of Abecassis, nor the relied on sections of Vong disclose or suggest transmitting a command to execute an icon to another client device.

Rather, the relied on sections of Cooper merely describe transmitting text data, a link, or a web banner from a first set-top box to another set-top box via a server and describe transmitting a buddy list from a set-top box to a server. (See Figs. 7 and 13, col.4 11.28-41, and col.7 11.29-42.) The relied on sections of Cooper neither disclose nor suggest that a first set-top box receives a selection of an icon for transmission to another set-top box, the relied on sections of Cooper neither disclose nor suggest that a first set-top box transmits a command that a server transmit an icon to another set-top box, and the relied on sections of Cooper neither disclose nor suggest that a server transmits to a set-top box a command to execute an icon.

The relied on sections of Vong merely describe computing device in which a control panel unit includes buttons having icons. (See col. 9 11.3-5.) The relied on sections of Vong do not disclose or suggest that a first computing device receives a selection of an icon for transmission to another computing device, the relied on sections of Vong do not disclose or suggest that a first computing device transmits a command that a server transmit an icon to another computing device, and the relied on sections of Vong do not disclose or suggest that a server transmits to a computing device a command to execute an icon.

Neither the relied on sections of Zenith nor the relied on sections of Abecassis remedy the above deficiencies of the relied on sections of Cooper and Vong.

It follows, for at least the above reasons, that neither the relied-on sections of Cooper, the relied-on sections of Zenith, the relied-on sections of Abecassis, nor the relied-on sections of Vong, whether taken alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the client device set out in claim 1, and therefore claim 1 is patentably distinct and unobvious over the cited references.

Independent claim 24 and independent claim 50 each include features similar to those set out in the above excerpt of claim 1. Therefore, for at least the same reasons, claims 24 and 50 are each patentably distinct and unobvious over relied-on sections of Cooper, Zenith, Abecassis, and Vong.

Claims 2-4, 7-16, and 21-23 depend from claim 1, claims 25-27 and 36-49 depend from claim 24, and claims 51-56 and 67-69 depend from claim 50. Therefore, each of these claims is distinguishable over the cited art for at least the same reasons as its parent claim.

The Examiner also rejected claims 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cooper in view of Zenith and further in view of Abecassis and Vong (as applied to claim 15) and DeWeese (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0262542), and rejected claims 28-35, and 57-66 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cooper in view of Zenith and further in view of Abecassis and Vong (as applied to claims 25 and 55) and further in view of DeWeese. Applicant submits that the claims are patentably distinguishable over the cited references.

Claims 17-20 depend from claim 1, claims 28-35 depend from claim 24, and claims 57-66 depend from claim 50. Therefore, each of claims 28-35 and 57-66 is distinguishable

over the relied on sections of Cooper, Zenith, Abecassis, and Vong for at least the same reasons as the claim from which it depends.

The relied on sections of DeWeese do not remedy these deficiencies.

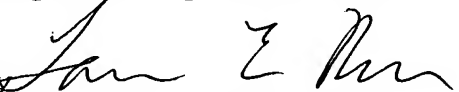
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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